



Washington State Genealogical Society

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS - 2009

The following outstanding volunteers, nominated and honored by their local societies, were recognized at the annual meeting of Washington State Genealogical Society at Spokane, Washington, on 12 September 2009.

Richard and Paula Banning	Region 8 - Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society
Patricia "Pat" (McKee) Bauer	Region 4 - Clark County Genealogical Society
Barbara Beede	Region 5 - Yakima Valley Genealogical Society
Marjorie E. Boles	Region 5 - Kittitas County Genealogical Society
Rosalie Bowman	Region 4 - Lewis County Genealogical Society
Patricia J. (Weiderman) Crimmel	Region 4 - Lower Columbia Genealogical Society
Diane (Erickson) Cruz	Region 4 - Clark County Genealogical Society
Shirley (Wylie) Dodson	Region 7 - Northeast Washington Genealogical Society
Sue (Semenza) Ericksen	Region 5 - Yakima Valley Genealogical Society
Carol Jane (Chappell) Germann	Region 4 - Clark County Genealogical Society
Patricia (Rotan) Gould	Region 6 - Tri-City Genealogical Society
James John Grinton	Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society
Virginia C. Hanks	Region 5 - Kittitas County Genealogical Society
Beverly Jane Honcoop	Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society
Bonnie (Albertson) Johannes	Region 3 - Grays Harbor Genealogical Society
Barbara (Gorham) Johnson	Region 1 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society
Cecily (Cone) Kelly	Region 7 - Eastern Washington Genealogical Society
Paul Henry Kenck	Region 8 - Chelan Valley Genealogical Society
Dawn Koepfel	Region 1 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society
Mary Sue (Caster) Kriefall	Region 1 - Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island
Judith (Armstrong) Meredith	Region 2 - Eastside Genealogical Society
Miriam (Robbins) Midkiff	Region 7 - Eastern Washington Genealogical Society
Verban (Hurley) Mooney	Region 8 - Chelan Valley Genealogical Society
LaVere (Wagner) Peters	Region 8 - Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society
Richard Mark "Rick" Read	Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society
Norma Rummel	Region 4 - Lewis County Genealogical Society
Donna (Macy) Sand	Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society
Teresa (Tilbury) Sandum	Region 8 - Chelan Valley Genealogical Society
Rita M. Schulze	Region 1 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society
Stanley and Carolyn (Frantz) Slippem	Region 6 - Tri-City Genealogical Society
Evelyn (Garrison) Steinmasel	Region 8 - Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society
Marilynn (James) Van Hise	Region 2 - Seattle Genealogical Society
Margaret Wilson	Region 1 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society
Doris (Kilcup) Winskie	Region 7 - Northeast Washington Genealogical Society
Sue (Harsch) Witham	Region 7 - Northeast Washington Genealogical Society

2009 - Region 1 - Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island

Mary Sue (Caster) Kriefall of Clinton, Washington, is recognized for her outstanding support, management and leadership of the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island. Shortly after Mary Sue joined the Society she took on the position of field trip director, in mid-year when the position suddenly became vacant. Her natural organizational talents were quickly apparent, and since then she has served as the GSSWI Vice President and President. In these two positions she worked to streamline our board meetings, overseen the review, integration and eventual rewrite of our by-laws and standing rules, and completed the development and publication of job guidelines for every board and committee position. She has shifted the focus of our advertising from that of a "monthly meeting" to one of a "speaker presentation" in order to attract more people to attend the meetings. The results speak for themselves as we have increased our membership by 15 people just this year alone. She was also instrumental in updating our member survey, and as a result we now have a basic computer class, a Legacy user group, and about eight special focus groups. It's clear to all that Mary Sue is a very talented leader and a great asset to the Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island.

2009 - Region 1 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Barbara (Gorham) Johnson of Sedro Woolley, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. Barbara joined Skagit Valley Genealogical Society about 3½ years ago after moving to Sedro Woolley. She immediately offered her help and has already served a two-year term as the Society's Secretary, reminding the officers of board meetings, taking accurate minutes of meetings and sharing pertinent information with the Society's members at general meetings. She also is an active volunteer helping with the Society's genealogy collection housed at the Burlington Public Library. After meeting Margaret Wilson at her church, and again at a meeting of the Society, they put together an historical presentation about Abigail Adams and Julia Ward Howe, composer of *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*. Sharing an interest in the Revolutionary War, they put together another presentation, "Witnesses to the Revolution," portraying a conversation between Anne Justis Morton and Abigail Adams. Barbara chose to portray Abigail Adams because her association with the Unitarian Church enables Barbara to speak to Abigail's values and how she lived them. She also holds an interest as her Gorham line may tie in to the Adams line. Barbara's enthusiastic participation in the Society's efforts is greatly appreciated.

2009 - Region 1 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Rita M. Schulze of Sedro Woolley, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to Skagit Valley Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Rita Schulze has been an active member of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society for many years and has distinguished herself in support of the Skagit Valley Genealogical Society and other researchers of Washington State families through her untiring efforts to disseminate genealogical data. Rita has both currently and in the past spent many hours as a member of the Society's Board. She has served two years as the Society's Secretary, keeping and sharing the minutes of our meetings with other members. She has been the Society's representative to the Federation of Genealogical Societies for the past three years and a member of the Society's publication committee. She also has spent many hours assisting with the reading and photographing of tombstones in our local cemeteries. On a personal level Rita has spent a great deal of time corresponding with libraries, courthouses and newspapers in search of her ancestors. With the assistance of her daughter, she plans to produce and publish a book on her ancestry. Rita's help with the Society's operations and research goals is greatly appreciated.

2009 - Region 1 - Skagit Valley Genealogical Society

Margaret Wilson of Burlington, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Skagit Valley Genealogical Society. Margie Wilson, daughter of an avid genealogist, picked up the reins when she inherited her mother's genealogy and research materials. A descendant of John Morton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and his wife Anne Justin Morton, she worked with officials of Vancouver, Washington, to display some of the family memorabilia and artifacts and to present a successful

character portrayal of her ancestor during a special event focused on the Declaration. She joined the Skagit Genealogical Society when she moved to Burlington 3 years ago. Shortly thereafter she joined with Barbara Johnson to produce an historical presentation about Abigail Adams and Julia Ward Howe, composer of *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*. Sharing an interest in the Revolutionary War, they produced another drama, "Witnesses to the Revolution," portraying a conversation between Anne Justis Morton and Abigail Adams. This play has been enjoyed by several societies in the state. Margie also volunteered to help with the Society's genealogy collection housed at the Burlington Public Library, and took over as head of the Society's Library Committee when the Chair was no longer able to continue in that position. Margie's support of the Society's mission is greatly appreciated.

2009 - Region 1 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society

William Blandin of Camano Island, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to Sno-Isle Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. The Sno-Isle Genealogical Society is proud to host on its web site the expanded CamWood Obituaries Index, which Bill Blandin compiles and maintains. The database, consisting of obituary information from the Stanwood/Camano Island area, now comprises about 10,000 lines of text. Bill and a dedicated group of volunteers, all members of the Camwood Genealogical Workshop, collect these obituaries regularly. Bill is one of the leaders of the Workshop, known affectionately as the "Camwoodies," and probably would be president if the group had officers. At the Stanwood Area Historical Society Museum, Bill helps out as a docent when needed. He is sought out for family history information at the museum, where he organizes the newspaper and clippings files at the same time that he is working on the obituaries database. At the museum Bill helps with the photograph collections, especially the Cama Beach Collections, as well as doing some carpentry. He is invaluable to the Stanwood Area Historical Society and also to the Stanwood-Camano community for his additional work for the Friends of Camano Island Parks and Camano Island Beach Watchers. Bill was profiled recently for his contributions to genealogy in the *Everett Herald*, 15 July 2009.

2009 - Region 1 - Sno-Isle Genealogical Society

Dawn Koepfel of Snohomish County, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Sno-Isle Genealogical Society. Dawn Koepfel has brought order to the netherworld of the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society library by inventorying the periodicals and other materials stored in the library basement at the Humble House in the City of Lynnwood's Heritage Park. Born in British Columbia, Dawn has been serving the genealogical community for many years. She was a volunteer at the LDS Family History Center in Mountlake Terrace, Washington. She brings the same approach to ordering the SIGS library as she does to genealogical research: meticulousness, fearlessness, and "bulldog" tenacity.

2009 - Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society

James John Grinton of Bellingham, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Whatcom Genealogical Society. Jim Grinton quietly served the Whatcom Genealogical Society for more than 20 years as the Society's Sales Subcommittee, helping to raise funds to support the Society's continuing operations. Only occasionally missing a meeting, Jim would bring boxes of materials from storage, set up the Sales table, encourage members to peruse and purchase various commercial genealogical magazines, and to take home any of the donated publications, forms and other freebies. He would then quietly repack the boxes and haul them home for storage until the next meeting. Jim's reliable efforts to provide the Society's members with interesting materials and, without any fanfare, to add resources to the Society's financial position deserve this recognition and the appreciation of the Society.

2009 - Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society

Beverly Jane Honcoop of Lynden, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Whatcom Genealogical Society. Bev Honcoop has provided untiring support in various functions of the Whatcom Genealogical Society for more than fifteen years. She was Chair of the Society's Library Acquisitions Committee for four years, leading her committee in identifying and arranging for the purchase and cataloging of useful books and other resources to add to the genealogical collection in the Bellingham Public Library. She continues to this day to serve as one of the Society's library aides assigned to provide help to patrons using the collection or just wanting to get started learning about their family history. She

acts as a key outreach point for the Society with visiting genealogists, many coming from Canada and other parts of the state and U.S. She also filled in as the Society's Secretary in 2003. Bev is fun and reliable, and her consistent support is greatly appreciated.

2009 - Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society

Richard Mark "Rick" Read of Bellingham, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to Whatcom Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Rick Read is an avid genealogist and researcher. A self-starter, Rick was noticed at the Bellingham Public Library, a few years ago, searching out obituaries and other information in response to online queries. He was recruited to joining the Whatcom Genealogical Society and take on the Research Aide position. He has exceptional research skills, and he attacks each query with zeal and obvious enjoyment. He continually adds to his list of more than 5,500 obituaries he has collected and makes available to other researchers. He has undertaken the task to verify and update the Society's published records of small Whatcom County cemeteries, photograph headstones and to obtain the obituaries, photographs and other information about each interred person. The information he gains is being added to the Society's website for wider dissemination. Rick's enthusiasm is infectious, and the Society is extremely grateful to him for his efforts and many accomplishments.

2009 - Region 1 - Whatcom Genealogical Society

Donna (Macy) Sand of Bellingham, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to Whatcom Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Donna Sand is an exceptional resource supporting the Whatcom Genealogical Society and other Washington State researchers. An invaluable source of information about many families from the San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom County area, many researchers have been directed to her over the years, not only for her knowledge, but for her personal collection of books and other records and for her able assistance with the Bellingham Public Library's genealogy collection. She is a dedicated volunteer at the library, Chair of the Society's Library Committee and an avid speaker on behalf of the Society's portion of the library collection and furthering the goals of the Society. Donna and her late husband, Bob, read many cemeteries in the multi-county area, contributing in many ways to development of the Society's cemetery records publications. She regularly contributes information for publication in the Society's journal, *The BULLETIN*, and continues to search out information about marriages which occurred in northwest Washington prior to statehood. The Society is greatly indebted to Donna and appreciative for her knowledge, enthusiasm and leadership.

2009 - Region 2 - Eastside Genealogical Society

Judith (Armstrong) Meredith of Redmond, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Eastside Genealogical Society. Judy Meredith has served in the capacity of Eastside Genealogical Society Program Chair for over six years and in that role has set up 70 consecutive monthly programs for the Society's membership. Elected Vice-President in May 2008, she has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2003. Judy has also served as a library research assistant at the Bellevue Regional Library for a number of years as a part of the Society's genealogical outreach program. She has given programs and led classes on genealogical topics, helped in the planning and staffing of the Society's booth at many local fairs and genealogical expositions, and is an active participant in several Special Interest Groups. Throughout it all she has been a frequent contributor to the Society's newsletter. And somewhere, somehow she has managed to stay active on her own genealogical pursuits. As one fellow board member observed, Judy is the Society's "Energizer Bunny"! Indeed.

2009 - Region 2 - Seattle Genealogical Society

Marilynn (James) Van Hise of Tukwila, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to the Seattle Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Marilynn Van Hise has been the driving force behind the Seattle Genealogical Society's King County Court Records indexing project. Begun in Spring 2000 and completed in July 2009, the final index--in Excel spreadsheet format--contains 1,590,770 lines covering well over 100 years of court activity in King County, Washington. Genealogical information such as birth, marriage,

divorce and death dates, name changes, probates, powers of attorney, property agreements, wills, etc. are included in these records. Marilyn not only helped retrieve and store the 107 boxes of paper records, but also recruited and helped train 49 volunteers over the 9-year project, distributed the records to be indexed, helped check submitted records, and even typed 526,150 records herself. This index, which is currently available only at the Seattle Genealogical Society library, is a monument to Marilyn's dedication and perseverance in creating this incredible resource for use by current and future generations of researchers of King County history.

2009 - Region 3 - Grays Harbor Genealogical Society

Bonnie (Albertson) Johannes of Hoquiam, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Grays Harbor Genealogical Society. Bonnie Johannes is a valuable member of the Grays Harbor Genealogical Society. Bonnie deserves recognition for her outstanding work and undying dedication to the enrichment of the Society. Since she became a member in 1993, Bonnie has worn a number of hats. At present, she is the Society President, a position she has held previously in 1998. She has also been vice president and has served on many committees. Besides being an influential member of the Grays Harbor Genealogical Society, she is involved in other community activities, including the Wishkah Valley School Reunion. Her enthusiasm and dedication to improve the Society is exceptional and much appreciated by the members.

2009 - Region 4 - Clark County Genealogical Society

Patricia "Pat" (McKee) Bauer of Ridgefield, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Clark County Genealogical Society. Pat Bauer has been an active member of the Clark County Genealogical Society for 20-plus years. She has been tireless in fulfilling a variety of roles for the Society. These have included performing as the webmaster for the Society since 1995. Included in this responsibility has been the realization of the nationally recognized Clark County Cemetery Web Project. This project consists of a web page for each cemetery in Clark County and the posting of photos of stones, histories, obituaries and maps. She has been Co-Host of the weekly *GenChat Forum* since 2004. The *GenChat Forum* is an open internet forum for anyone interested in researching their family history. It has become a model for other genealogical societies across the USA. She also has been the Co-Editor of the *CCGS Newsletter* since 2004. Pat has been a long time CCGS board member. Her knowledge, commitment and leadership have been crucial in the stability and future development of the organization. As a life time Clark County resident, she is a prolific resource regarding the history of the County. Pat comes to each task with a wonderful disposition and great sense of humor. The Society is grateful to have Pat's infectious enthusiasm and leadership skills.

2009 - Region 4 - Clark County Genealogical Society

Diane (Erickson) Cruz of Vancouver, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Clark County Genealogical Society. Diana Cruz has been a long time member of the Clark County Genealogical Society and has been the backbone of the organization. She has served on the Society's Board of Directors in a variety of roles, including most recently a term as President from 2005 to 2007 and as the membership chair for the Society. She has led the Society's annual trip to the Family History Library at Salt Lake City. Diana was the editor for the *Trail Breaker*, the annual publication for the Society and was instrumental in the provision of genealogical education classes sponsored by the Society. Her knowledge and expertise in genealogical research made her the perfect person to represent the Society. More recently, Diana took on the formidable task of managing the meeting facility which supports the Society's library. The Society has built a significant presence on the internet, an accomplishment for which Diana deserves much recognition. Diana was also our on-site computer expert. She was the "go-to" person when problems arose. These are only a few of the many jobs that Diana has taken on during her long tenure with the Society. When Diana assumes a task, it is always done well with unexcelled dedication and enthusiasm. Diana's leadership and contributions are greatly appreciated.

2009 - Region 4 - Clark County Genealogical Society

Carol Jane (Chappell) Germann of Chehalis, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Clark County Genealogical Society. Jane Germann has served in a variety of leadership positions including two terms as President of Clark County Genealogical Society. The Society has developed an outstanding Genealogy education program, and Jane has authored classes in Beginning Genealogy, Organizing Your Records, Court Records, Land Records and Publishing Your Genealogy. Her lecture preparation is thorough and authoritative. Her presentations of these two-hour lectures are spot-on to the needs of our diverse student audiences. Jane continually updates her lectures and adapts new teaching technology as it becomes available. Currently Jane is the Society's Research and Preservation Committee Chairperson. As such she has worked with the Office of the Secretary of State on several projects coordinating our volunteers with the state's Clark County projects. Jane led CCGS in working with three historical museums in preparing a comprehensive inventory of the various collections of genealogical materials in Clark County. Jane led her team in preparing a names index book from 1928 township maps submitted by the North County Historical Museum, a significant contribution to the preservation and publication of genealogical information important to researchers interested in the families of Washington State.

2009 - Region 4 - Lewis County Genealogical Society

Rosalie Bowman of Chehalis, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to Lewis County Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Rosalie Bowman is a long time member of the Lewis County Genealogical Society and has distinguished herself in support of the Society by helping to read and prepare the lists of several cemeteries so they could be posted to the Tombstone Transcription Project at the USGenWeb Project. Her dedication to preserving and disseminating valuable genealogical information about the families and individuals who settled and developed the local area is very much appreciated by all the Society's members. Rosalie is also a member of the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington, and an active member of the Red Hat Chapter of the Razzle Dazzle Divas of Centralia, and she is quite active in other activities in the local communities.

2009 - Region 4 - Lewis County Genealogical Society

Norma Rummel of Chehalis, Washington, is recognized for her exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Lewis County Genealogical Society. Norma Rummel has distinguished herself in her support of the Lewis County Genealogical Society by aiding in the compilation of cemetery records, providing interesting and informative educational programs for the membership, and donating several items to the Society's library. Norma is also the current President of the Mary Lacey Chapter of the D.A.R. She has written two books about her family's history, and is currently working on the third. Norma is an exceptional asset to the Lewis County Genealogical Society, and is greatly appreciated for all the work she has done to support the Society.

2009 - Region 4 - Lower Columbia Genealogical Society

Patricia J. (Weiderman) Crimmel of Kelso, Washington, is recognized for her exceptional leadership, exemplary operational knowledge and support to the Lower Columbia Genealogy Society. Her involvement has included activities in Society positions of trustee, secretary, president and as a member of Board of Directors. She has served on many committees, such as audit, budget, membership, publicity, publications, book acquisition, library, rest stop fundraising, nominating, proof reading, programs and classes. When a new project occurs, Pat is always the first to ask what she can do to help as well as giving input in the details of area planning and research. She always encourages others to use their individual talents in support of the Society. Pat has made significant contributions to the field of genealogy and has been instrumental in improving the Society's service to the community.

2009 - Region 5 - Kittitas County Genealogical Society

Marjorie E. Boles of Ellensburg, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Kittitas County Genealogical Society. Marge Boles has been a member of the Kittitas County Genealogical Society since its beginning. She and Virginia Hanks have worked tirelessly in their role as Co-Librarians for the Society's research library. This has included identifying new purchases, cataloging the

holdings and organizing a system of volunteers who work to keep the library's doors open 5 days a week! Further, they have handled the brunt of the work in moving the library to two different locations and making sure that everything was in order in a short amount of time. To top it all off, they also have spent many hours in local cemeteries transcribing, collecting, and organizing this information into a goodly number of publications which are sold by the Society. Marge and Virginia are key players in the Society's outreach to potential new members and visitors.

2009 - Region 5 - Kittitas County Genealogical Society

Virginia C. Hanks of Ellensburg, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Kittitas County Genealogical Society. Virginia Hanks has worked with Marge Boles in their role as Co-Librarians of the Kittitas County Genealogical Society's research library since its beginning. This has included identifying new purchases, cataloging the holdings and organizing a system of volunteers who work to keep the library's doors open 5 days a week! Further, they have handled the brunt of the work in moving the library to two different locations and making sure that everything was in order in a short amount of time. To top it all off, they also have spent many hours in local cemeteries transcribing, collecting, and organizing this information into a goodly number of publications which are sold by the Society. Virginia and Marge are key players in the Society's outreach to potential new members and visitors.

2009 - Region 5 - Yakima Valley Genealogical Society

Barbara Beede of Yakima, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Yakima Valley Genealogical Society. Barbara Beede has been a very active member and leader of the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society for more than 25 years. Barbara is a past president of the Society and has volunteered to chair many projects over the years. For the last several years she has taken charge of recruiting and scheduling volunteers to staff the coffee service stand at the Indian John Hill Rest Area on Interstate 90 near Cle Elum. This activity has brought in significant donations to support the Society's operation. Yakima Valley Genealogical Society is thankful for Barbara's loyal support and leadership.

2009 - Region 5 - Yakima Valley Genealogical Society

Sue (Semenza) Ericksen of Zillah, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Yakima Valley Genealogical Society. Sue Ericksen is an exceptional leader and activist for the Yakima Valley Genealogical Society. She is the current Treasurer, maintaining careful records and surveillance over the Society's income and expenditures. She also works as a volunteer librarian and cataloguer, ensuring visitors from throughout the Washington, other states and Canada have easy access to information in the Society's library book collection. She is the web-master for the Society's website and devotes a lot of time to indexing local census records. Yakima Valley Genealogical Society is indebted to Sue's loyalty and tireless energy.

2009 - Region 6 - Tri-City Genealogical Society

Patricia (Rotan) Gould of Richland, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Tri-City Genealogical Society. Patricia Gould has provided cheerful support to the Tri-City Genealogical Society through exemplary service as the Society's treasurer, a position she held and performed well for six consecutive years. As treasurer, she conquered computer related challenges, successfully passed audits without a significant audit finding, safeguarded the society's funds, tracked budget accounts, and paid all bills and reimbursements in a timely fashion. After stepping down from the treasurer's position, she became aware of the society's need for a secretary and immediately volunteered to fill that position. Thus she has been on the Society's Board for seven of her ten years of membership. In addition, she has augmented the society's operating fund by making surplus books and materials available for sale to members at the society's general meetings. The Tri-City Genealogical Society appreciates her long and continued support.

2009 - Region 6 - Tri-City Genealogical Society

Stanley and Carolyn (Frantz) Slippern of Richland, Washington, are recognized for exemplary and consistent volunteer service to preserve records as a goal and purpose of the Tri-City Genealogical Society. Stan and Carolyn Slippern have distinguished themselves through their steadfast and unwavering dedication to the preservation of accurate records of great genealogical significance to the Tri-City Genealogical Society and the Columbia River Exhibition of History Science and Technology Museum (CREHST). Over the last five years, Stan and Carolyn have been key volunteers in proofreading entries made by other TCGS members creating a database from which the retrieval of photographs from a 62,000 photographic collection of CREHST became a reality. The photographs were generated by the Marlin's Columbia Photography and the North Light Studio that operated in the Tri-Cities from 1952-2007 and from 1979-2001 respectively and contain pictures of people and events in and around the Tri-Cities area during those periods. Stan and Carolyn's team effort allows these photographs to be retrievable by the public and genealogy communities. In addition, Carolyn acted as a temporary membership chairman when the position became unexpectedly vacated. These activities demonstrate Stan and Carolyn's untiring contributions to the Society's success.

2009 - Region 7 - Eastern Washington Genealogical Society

Cecily (Cone) Kelly of Spokane, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Eastern Washington Genealogical Society. Cecily Kelly consistently provides outstanding support to the Eastern Washington Genealogical Society. She volunteered to be the host chairperson for the 2009 WSGS Conference being held in Spokane at the historic Davenport Hotel. A challenging responsibility, Cecily fervently organized and coordinated the various committees to put together a state conference second to none. When it appeared that the costs would limit the number of attendees, Cecily was able to renegotiate the contract to make the registration affordable for all. She also instituted an online registration option for the first time, a must in the Internet age. Additionally Cecily is an EWGS library volunteer and can be seen every Tuesday at the Spokane Library eagerly providing her genealogy expertise to family history enthusiasts. Her congenial and patient demeanor is very helpful to the beginning genealogist trying to find their roots. She has been and continues to be a significant asset to the Eastern Washington Genealogical Society.

2009 - Region 7 - Eastern Washington Genealogical Society

Miriam (Robbins) Midkiff of Spokane, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Eastern Washington Genealogical Society. With boundless energy and enthusiasm, Miriam Midkiff has volunteered to take charge of a variety of Eastern Washington Genealogical Society positions. She has done an admirable job as Ways and Means Chairman always bringing in interesting genealogy related items for our monthly raffle. She also coordinates the monthly Internet education classes at the Spokane Library and has prepared and presented numerous classes herself. She implemented the EWGS Blog and is currently the editor and frequent contributor. She is the vendor coordinator for the 2009 WSGS Conference, working tirelessly to get interesting vendors for the conference. Miriam teaches beginning and intermediate online genealogy classes for the Spokane County Library district as well as being a presenter at various area genealogical societies. Her personal genealogy blog was ranked number 6 out of 50 by ProGenealogists. Miriam's versatility and dedication make her an example for all.

2009 - Region 7 - Northeast Washington Genealogical Society

Shirley (Wylie) Dodson of Colville, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to the Northeast Washington Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Shirley Dodson is recognized for her outstanding efforts to preserve and share records of Stevens County. She has worked diligently and tirelessly for over 20 years to extract, transcribe and index local records to make them easier to research. Newspapers, courthouse records, school records, local histories . . . all have come under her scrutiny. Thanks to her dedication, the Northeast Washington Genealogical Society databases are approaching 400,000 entries. This has been a team effort, but Shirley's early foresight and imagination got the project rolling and has kept it going. Many people all over the world have benefited from her dedication to sharing local history.

2009 - Region 7 - Northeast Washington Genealogical Society

Doris (Kilcup) Winskie of Chewelah, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Northeast Washington Genealogical Society. Doris Winsk has served as Northeast Washington Genealogical Society's Treasurer (1989-1993) and President (1993-1995), and since 1996, is currently the Editor of the Society's quarterly. Under her leadership, "*Pioneer Branches*" has become an award-winning publication. Besides coordinating what goes into the quarterly, she is constantly on the lookout for local records to include, and also sees that it gets printed and distributed. Doris also teaches beginners classes, fills in as instructor as needed for our Computer Interest Group, and spends many hours helping people with their research, especially as pertains to the Chewelah area. Her dedication to the Society is very much appreciated.

2009 - Region 7 - Northeast Washington Genealogical Society

Sue (Harrsch) Witham of Colville, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation of important records of genealogical value to the Northeast Washington Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Sue Witham is recognized for her outstanding effort to index local funeral home records, thereby simplifying research for the Northeast Washington Genealogical Society research team. She has extracted almost 9,000 handwritten records for Colville and Chewelah. Sue has been an active member of NeWGS for many years, serving as Treasurer since 1997. Her contributions are greatly appreciated not only by NeWGS but by the many people who seek information on their ancestors who died in Stevens County.

2009 - Region 8 - Chelan Valley Genealogical Society

Paul Henry Kenck of Chelan, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Chelan Valley Genealogical Society. Paul Kenck is a charter member of Chelan Valley Genealogical Society and served as Treasurer from 1995 - 1999. During this same period of time he was Director of the Chelan Branch Family History Center. Paul maintained the Treasurer's books with great accuracy and they were always up-to-date. He kept track of spending and held expenditures within budget limits by reminding officers and committee chairmen how much money was left. Paul attended meetings regularly in spite of sometimes being the only man present. He has always been willing to help with room set-up, clean-up and carrying supplies back to cars at the end of meetings. Paul has been a wonderful help to the Society and its members.

2009 - Region 8 - Chelan Valley Genealogical Society

Verban (Hurley) Mooney of Chelan, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of the Chelan Valley Genealogical Society. From 2001 through 2007, Verban Mooney served as Chelan Valley Genealogical Society Treasurer, making her the longest serving officer in one position—seven years. She always kept immaculate books with records remarkable for their precision and neatness. Verban supported the Society's fund raising activities, bringing the cash box and keeping track of all money collected. She took the initiative to pay bills promptly without reminding and could always give a current financial report. Verban and her husband, Joe, are charter members and invaluable supporters of the Society.

2009 - Region 8 - Chelan Valley Genealogical Society

Teresa (Tilbury) Sandum of Chelan, Washington, is recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation and dissemination of information of genealogical importance and value to Chelan Valley Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Since 1999 Teresa Sandum has spent years and thousands of hours visiting, cataloging, and researching the cemeteries of the Chelan Valley and surrounding areas. She does not stop at a photo of a stone, a row listing and a name, birth date, and death date. She verifies the information, researches for parents, family, spouses and other valuable data. Once she has it for one person, she moves on to the next. Then she submits her information to sites like Findagrave.com and others, along with books of information that the City of Chelan holds. To date Teresa has submitted over 19,000 names and their accompanying information. In 2000 Teresa published a book, "Cemeteries of the Chelan Area", and is currently working on an update. While not a member of the Chelan Valley Genealogical Society, Teresa's outstanding contribution to the broader genealogical and historical research community deserves state-wide recognition and appreciation.

2009 - Region 8 - Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society

Richard and Paula Banning of East Wenatchee, Washington, are recognized for outstanding efforts in the preservation and management of important records of genealogical value to Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society and other researchers interested in the families of Washington State. Dick and Paula Banning have been volunteer librarians since becoming members of Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society. They also volunteered for and completed several projects in the last few years that have taken an enormous amount of time and expense to accomplish. They drove to the cemeteries in Chelan, Douglas and Grant counties for which the Society had records and took pictures, verified driving directions and obtained GPS and latitude/longitude coordinates for each. They consolidated this data with information from other volunteers into binders and marked the locations on large county maps for researchers to view. Dick designed handout sheets providing directions and detailed maps of the Wenatchee City Cemetery and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery for patrons looking for gravesites. Dick and Paula organized, indexed and filed the Chadbourne Files into two 4-drawer file cabinets, and helped preserve the donated Jones & Jones Funeral Home records by labeling more than 15,000 archival folders to use for their storage. Consolidating and indexing the Society's map collection, oversized books of maps and gazetteers with maps from the Chadbourne Files, they built an exceptional map database for the Society. Through the contributions of Dick and Paula, WAGS has many more resources to share with its library patrons and members.

2009 - Region 8 - Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society

LaVere (Wagner) Peters of Wenatchee, Washington, is recognized for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society. LaVere Peters was instrumental in organizing the genealogy library for the Genealogical Society of North Central Washington, which is now known as the Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society, and for making its resources accessible to the Society's patrons and members. She organized work parties to shelve and clean books, films/fiche and computer resources in the library. She also organized volunteers to "weed" out unnecessary content (such as ads) in the journals and newsletters received through exchanges with other societies to make room for more resources. This project took years. LaVere served as a volunteer librarian for many years and was in charge of scheduling other volunteer librarians for weekly assignments. She was a teacher/mentor to new librarians and assisted them in learning the procedures and techniques to help the library patrons and Society members in their research. When a new librarian was assigned, LaVere took her time to assist the librarian with the first few assignments. Throughout her years of volunteer service LaVere has put in hours and hours of good work to make the WAGS Library a complete resource for the community, patrons and members in their search for their ancestors.

2009 - Region 8 - Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society

Evelyn (Garrison) Steinmasel (1915 - 1999), is recognized posthumously for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society and outstanding assistance to its members and patrons.

Evelyn Steinmasel was president 3 terms, from 1975 through 1978), and held that position when the Articles of Incorporation were filed for the Genealogical Society of North Central Washington, the predecessor of Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society. She worked for over 20 years helping members and patrons in their research and furthering the goals of the Society.

Evelyn started, and for more than 20 years, compiled and edited materials for the Society's Pictorial Past Scrapbooks, totaling more than 1600 pages, and started the Anniversaries & Celebrations Scrapbooks indexing in 1980. Many articles have been written and contributed by her, including the "History of Hospitals in Wenatchee." Evelyn contributed articles for the Appleland Bulletin and gave educational presentations at the general membership meetings. She did a lot of compiling and indexing of records from the Evergreen Cemetery and Cashmere Cemetery. She extracted surnames for the first Appleland Bulletin Index. She co-chaired the original project of copying the Chelan County marriage records, served on nominating committees and as liaison with the North Central Washington Museum.

Evelyn was especially good at getting people started in genealogy. Her friendliness and warmth, as well as her experience, encouraged people return to receive additional help. She had exceptional expertise in using court and land records of the southern U.S. Evelyn had a wealth of knowledge about Native American

research in the southern tribes and would spend hours in the rolls of the Five Tribes helping people locate their missing ancestors. She was always generous with her time and seemed as enthused about other people's research as she was with her own.

Throughout her years of volunteer service Evelyn worked for the good of the Genealogical Society of North Central Washington and Wenatchee Area Genealogical Society in providing and preserving genealogical and historical records; thereby safeguarding important research materials for the community, patrons and members. An extraordinary leader and gracious individual, Evelyn's legacy of accomplishments continues to be remembered and appreciated.